

# Reformed Church Gleanings

A Monthly Journal Devoted to the Interests of the New Holland Charge, New Holland, Lancaster County, Pa.

Vol. I.

NEW HOLLAND, PA., FEBRUARY, 1908.

No. 5.

## CONGREGATIONAL ITEMS.

### Zeltenreich.

At last we had a pleasant Sunday and passable roads on Sunday, January 19, and more of the members of Zeltenreich than usual were in attendance at the service in St. Stephen's at that time. It is to be hoped that there will be a full attendance of the members of the three congregations at the mid winter communion at 10:30 A. M., February 2. We hope also for favorable weather on that day. Special envelopes will again be supplied to the members of Zeltenreich in which to place their thank offerings to meet the apportionment. The absence of services on the Zeltenreich ground during the winter may result in a deficit on the apportionment for the year. But if the members will contribute liberally when the opportunity is at hand, there ought to be no insuperable difficulty in this direction.

The Building Committee has not been meeting regularly since the cessation of work on the church. There will be strenuous work for it when the work is resumed in the spring. Let all the members of the congregation do all they can to encourage the committee in their arduous and responsible work. It will help to lighten the burden.

### St. Stephen's.

The Mite Society of this congregation has purchased two dozen hymnals and donated them to the congregation. This is money wisely spent. These books are to be distributed among the members and attendants, who may not be supplied with books of their own, for use during service.

These hymnals are always to remain in the church. It seems almost incredible, but there is good authority for saying that now and then a person is so absent-minded as to take such a book home with him, and so short in memory as to forget to return it. The pastor knows of a case in which an absent-minded person took two dozen of such books home with him from the church at one time. There happened, however, to be no one else about at the time to make use of them.

The Sunday School is growing apace

at present. This is as it ought to be. Let the good work be kept up; let no one grow weary in well doing. There is room for a class of married men, widowers and bachelors. These have not been attending the school in late years. There is material enough of this kind in the congregation to constitute a fine class.

### St. Paul's.

The pastor regrets that on account of the weather and a severe bronchial affection he had to disappoint this congregation at the hour for service on January 12. He was rejoiced to learn, however, that Elder E. H. Burkholder conducted a short service in his absence. This is as it ought to be. The elders and deacons in the apostolic church not only conducted services, but did some very good preaching—at least, some of them.

Special envelopes will also be provided for the members of this congregation to contribute their offerings at the union communion on February 2.

## THE JOINT CONSISTORY.

The Joint Consistory of the New Holland charge held a special meeting at 2 P. M., January 19, in the St. Stephen's church, New Holland. The object of this meeting was chiefly to hear and act upon the report of the publisher of the *Gleanings*, William M. Stauffer. As the paper is published in the interest of the three congregations of the charge it was deemed well to consult their representatives. Hitherto the paper was under the control of the consistory of St. Stephen's only. Mr. Stauffer's report was deemed encouraging enough to justify the continuance of the publication of the *Gleanings*. The Joint Consistory formally took the paper under its care and control, and continued in their positions the present editor and publisher. The following persons were appointed to solicit subscriptions from the members and friends of the three congregations: Zeltenreich, John Flickinger, Ira G. Bair and Miss Anna Mary Diller; St. Stephen's, Franklin Raezer and Mrs. Christian Renninger; St. Paul's, Ezra H. Burkholder and Miss Sarah M. Sprecher.

It is hoped that these persons will try to see those members and friends who are not already subscribers and report results to Mr. Stauffer. They can secure from him all the copies of the paper that may be required. It is well, too, that all subscriptions should begin with the first issue (October), as a complete file of the paper will prove, in the years to come, to be a valuable and interesting history of the current events in the New Holland charge.

### REV. WALTER E. KREBS, D. D.

The pastor had the pleasure of a visit from his friend of many years, Rev. Walter E. Krebs, of Littlestown, Pa., who is the only surviving member of the Committee on Examination and Licensure appointed by the Synod at Lancaster, in the autumn of 1864, to examine the pastor, then a candidate, among a number of other young men, for the office of the ministry. Dr. Krebs has been an esteemed friend ever since. He is now retired from the active work, though frequently called upon to preach in various parts of the church. He preached an excellent sermon in St. Stephen's on Sunday evening, January 12. His coming was quite a relief to the pastor, who was suffering at the time from a severe cold.

## THE GLEANINGS.

The publisher of the *Reformed Church Gleanings* thinks that there is enough income assured from subscriptions and advertisements to continue its publication during the coming year. This is good news, even if the work involved is rather a serious addition to the already numerous and exacting labors of the editor. This additional service, however, will be as cheerfully continued as it was begun, if it is felt that it subserves the best interests of the congregations concerned. The editor should be thankful, too, for any suggestions for improvement in his department, which the readers may have to make. This is rather a new experiment for him and he is by no means sure that he can meet the requirements of his position in the most satisfactory way.

# Reformed Church Gleanings.

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Rev. John G. Noss, Editor.  
Wm. M. Stauffer, Publisher.

Terms: 25 cents a year in advance.  
All subscriptions should be sent to the publisher.

FEBRUARY, 1908.

### ROBERT SOUTH.

Rev. Robert South, D. D., was born at Hackney, England, in 1633, and died in 1716. He was a famous preacher in his day and a devoted member of the Church of England. He was a man of strong convictions, and his sermons, as well as his controversial writings, give abundant evidence that he never lacked the courage to express those convictions in vigorous language. The following extracts, which can still be read with benefit, show the vigor of the man and the sturdy character of his preaching to the people who came in large numbers to hear him over two hundred years ago:

#### Sorrow.

The sorrow of the pure and the sensible does not sally out into complaint, or loudness; nor spread itself upon the face and write sad stories upon the forehead. No wringing of the hands, knocking of the breast, or wishing one's self unborn. All which are but the ceremonies of sorrow, the pomp and ostentation of an effeminate grief, which speak not so much the greatness of the misery as the smallness of the mind.

#### Sin, and Its Consequences.

God has annexed two great evils to every sin, in opposition to the pleasure and profit of it; to wit, shame and pain. He has, by an eternal and most righteous decree, made these two the inseparable effects and consequents of sin. They are the wages assigned it by the laws of heaven; so that whosoever commits it, ought to account shame and punishment to belong to him as his rightful inheritance. For it is God who has joined them together by an irreversible sentence; and it is not in the power or art of man to put them asunder. And now, as God has made these two evils the sure consequents of sin, so there is nothing which the nature of man does so peculiarly dread and abhor as these; they being indeed the most directly and absolutely destructive of all its enjoyments; forasmuch as they reach and confound it in the adequate subjects of enjoyment, the soul and the

body; shame being properly the torment of the one and pain of the other. For the mind of man can have no taste or relish of any pleasure in the world while it is actually oppressed and overwhelmed with shame; nothing does so keenly and intolerably effect the soul as infamy. It drinks up and consumes the quickness, the gaiety and activity of the spirits; it dejects the countenance made by God Himself to look upwards, so that this noble creature, the masterpiece of the creation, dares not so much as lift up either his head or his thoughts, but it is a vexation to him even to look upon others, and yet a greater to be looked upon by them. And as shame thus mortifies the soul, so pain or punishment (the other twin effect of sin) equally harasses the body. We know how much misery pain is able to bring upon the body in this life, there being never a limb or part, never a vein or artery of the body, but it is the scene and receptacle of pain whensoever it shall please God to unfeign it and let in some sharp disease or distemper upon it.

#### The Conscience.

Who knows the force, the power, and the remorseless rage of conscience when God commissions it to call the sinner to an account? How strangely it will sift and winnow all his retirements; how terribly it will wring and torture him, till it has bolted out the hidden guilt which it was in search of! All which is so mighty an argument of the prerogative of God over men's hearts, that no malefactor can be accounted free, though in his own keeping, nor any one concealed, though never so much out of sight, for still God has His sergeant or officer in the sinner's breast, who will be sure to attack him as soon as ever the great Judge shall but give the word; an officer so strictly true to his trust, that he is neither to be softened nor sweetened; neither to be begged nor bought off, nor consequently, in a word fit to be of the jury when a rich or potent malefactor comes to be tried, in hopes to be brought off. And this also shows the great importance and wisdom of that advice of Pythagoras, namely, that every man, when he is about to do a wicked action, should, above all things in the world, stand in awe of himself, and dread the witness within him; who sits there as a spy over all his actions and will be sure, one day or another, to accuse him to himself, and perhaps put him upon such a rack as shall make him accuse himself to others, too.

### ON THE SICK LIST.

Mrs. Annie M., the wife of Elder Edwin C. Mentzer, and Mrs. Susan, the wife of Mr. Henry Mentzer, members of St. Stephen's, are passing through afflictions. The former has been unable to be about for some time; the latter, though stricken only a short time ago, is entirely disabled for the present, and is very ill. With the Father in heaven are the issues of life and death. What a consolation it is to be believers in Christ, that whether we live, or whether we die, we are the Lord's. Mrs. Catharine, wife of Mr. John Sheaffer, of near Farmersville, and a member of St. Paul's, is also passing through the deep waters of affliction. May the Father of mercies enable these afflicted ones to bear with patience the chastening which, though at present grievous, will bring to them the promised weight of glory hereafter.

Who acts a hundred times with high moral principle before he speaks of it once, that is a man whom one could bless and clasp to one's heart. I am far from saying that he is on that account free from faults, but the degree of striving after perfection and virtue determines the value of a man.—George Forster.

### DEATH.

At her home in New Holland, Mrs. Lydia Hoover, after a short illness, departed this life January 11, aged 80 years, 5 months and 15 days. She was the daughter of the late A. Jackson Yundt, and the widow of David M. Hoover, who died many years ago. Mrs. Hoover became a member of St. Stephen's in early womanhood, and was a faithful member to the end of life. Of late years it was difficult for her to attend church regularly because of the infirmities of age. She was a quiet, gentle woman and leaves behind her the impress and influence of her quiet, unobtrusive Christian life. She leaves, outside of a large circle of more distant relatives, only one surviving sister, Mrs. Daniel Becker, of Mascot, and her only son, Albert, with whom she had her home. She is laid to rest in the cemetery of St. Stephen's awaiting the resurrection to immortality.

Indecision mars all success; there can be no good wind for that sailor who knows not to what port he is bound.

## Reformed Church Gleanings.

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#### BAPTISM.

January 2, Eugene Bensinger, infant son of Eugene and Clara H. Rishel, at their home, in New Holland.

#### MARRIAGE.

At the parsonage, January 4, Abiah M. Martin to Miss Ada S. Lausch, both of near Hahnstown.

At the parsonage, January 4, Curtis H. Showalter, of Martindale, to Miss Clara S. Moore, of Leacock township.

There is in every animal's eye a dim image and gleam of humanity, a flash of strange light through which their life looks out and up to our great mystery of command over them, and claims the fellowship of the creature, if not of the soul.—Ruskin.

### CHURCH CALENDAR.

The services for February are as follows:

#### St. Stephen.

Sunday Feb. 2nd., Holy Communion, union service, 10:30 a. m.

Sunday Feb. 9 th., 7 p. m.

Sunday Feb. 16th., 10:30 a. m. and 7 p. m.

Sunday Feb. 23rd., 10:30 a. m.

Sunday School at 9:15 a. m. and Catechism at 6 p. m. every Sunday.

Mid-week service at 7:30 p. m., each Wednesday.

#### St. Paul.

Sunday Feb. 9th., 10 a. m.

Sunday Feb. 23rd., 2 p. m.



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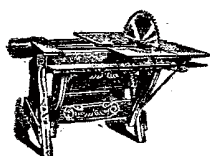
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